

Agenda



6:00 Welcome and Workshop Objectives

6:15 Introduction to the West End Project

- Background
- Purpose & Need
- General Proposed Action

6:30 Insects and Disease Presentation

6:50 Learn more and provide input!

(Station Breakout)



United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

West End Farm Bill Project

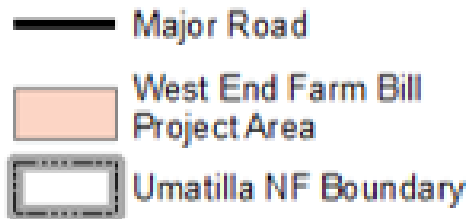
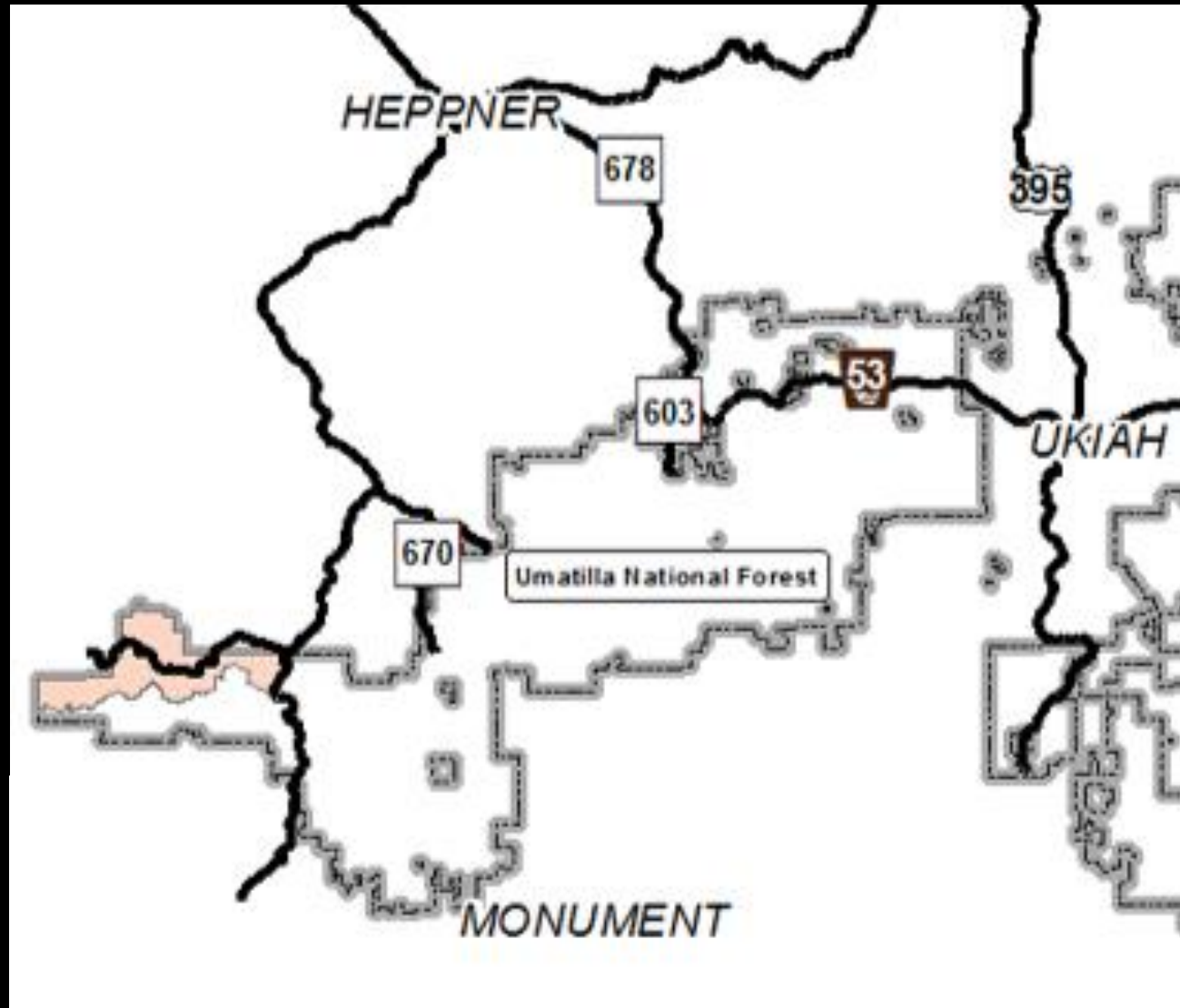
Umatilla National Forest

Heppner Ranger District



Project Location

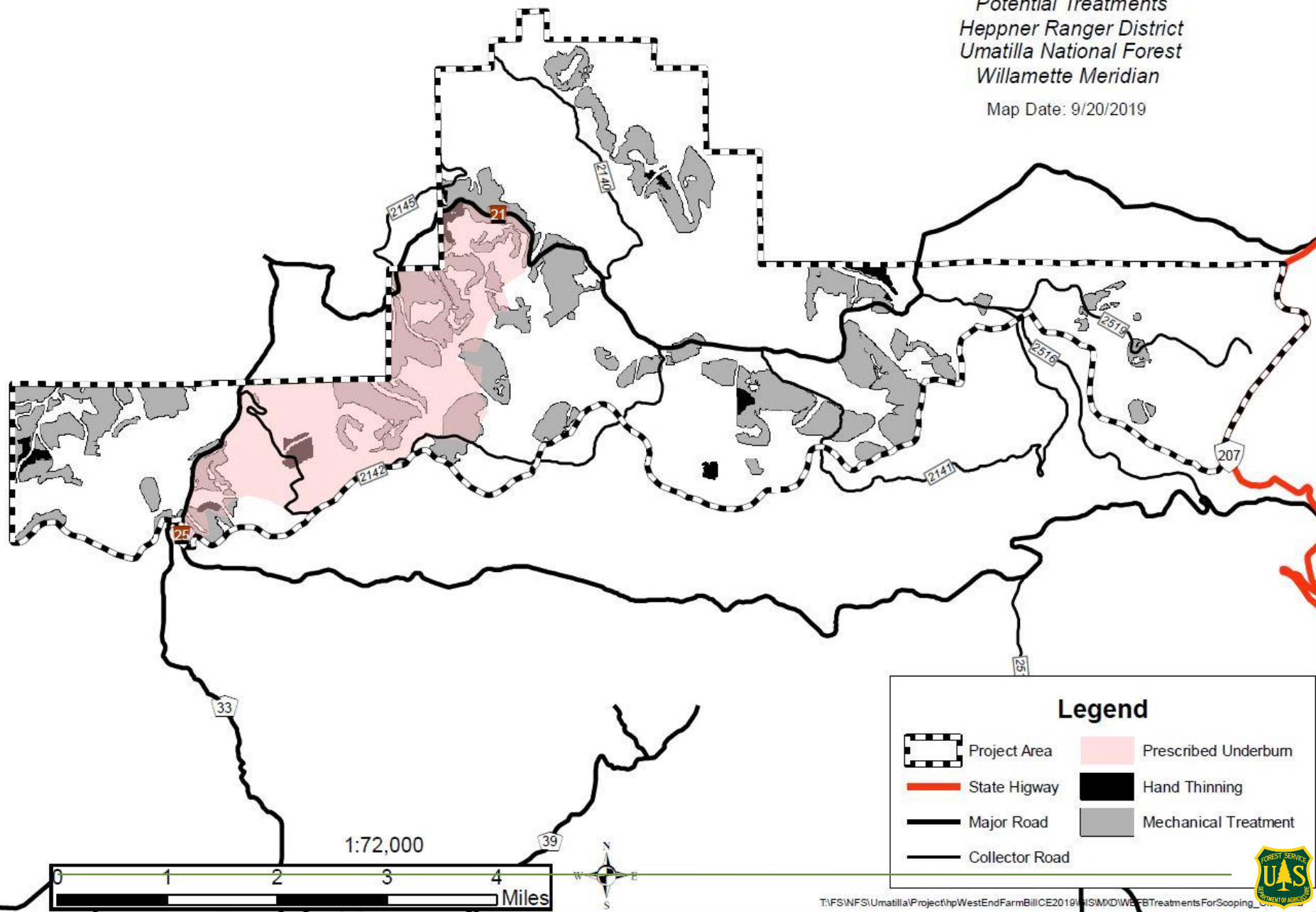
- 28 miles southwest of Heppner, Oregon
- Wheeler County
- Portion of the Heppner Ranger District west of Highway 207



West End Farm Bill CE

Potential Treatments
Heppner Ranger District
Umatilla National Forest
Willamette Meridian

Map Date: 9/20/2019



West End Project Overview



- 14,000 acre Project Area
- Up to 3,000 acres proposed for treatment
- Project proposal, maps, and other information on public website:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56315>

Insect and Disease Categorical Exclusion

Section 603 of the amended Healthy
Forests Restoration Act (HFRA)

Projects must be in designated insect and
disease area-

Within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI),
or,

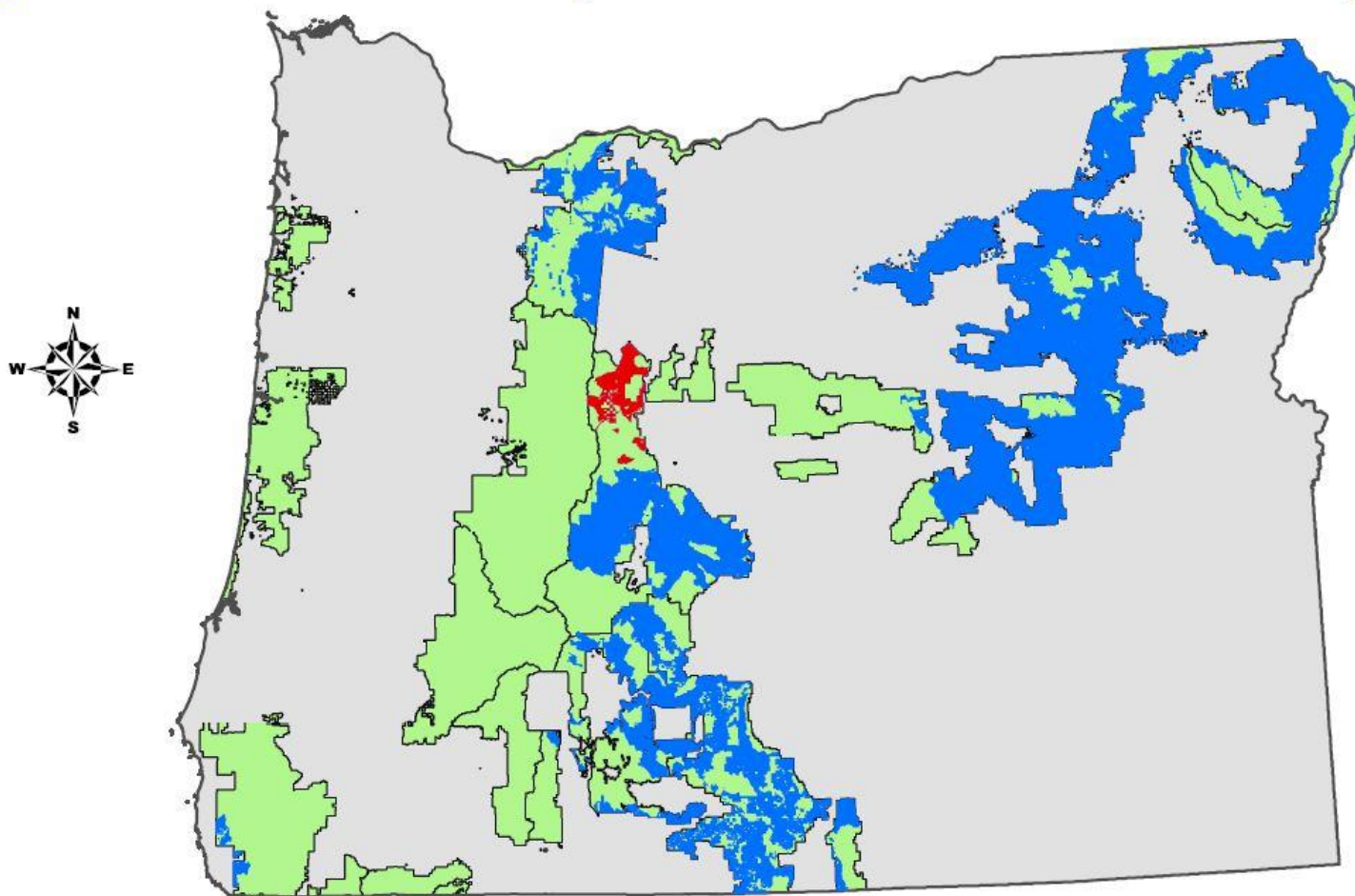
Within Condition Classes 2 or 3, Fire Regime
Groups I, II or III



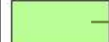
May treat up to 3,000 acres





National Forest System Lands Designated Under Section 602 of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act in Oregon



-  Newly Designated Areas
-  National Forest System Lands Designated Under Section 602 of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act
-  Lands Within the National Forest Boundary

0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles

Note: Data displayed are for informational purposes only and depict designations made under section 602 of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act. Please contact Sunny Ng for details: sunnywng@fs.fed.us

Map created by USFS Geospatial Technology and Applications Center on May 10, 2023



What are we currently seeing?



- Infestation by multiple insect species including the fir engraver and mountain pine beetle
- Diseases such as various root rots, mistletoes, and Western Gall Rust
- Intensity and duration of outbreaks increase during drought

What is the Purpose of the Project?

An insect and disease project categorically excluded under Section 603 of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act must be designed to reduce the risk or extent of, or increase the resilience to, insect or disease infestation in the areas (HFRA, Sections 602(d) and 603(a)).

Purpose:

- Reduce the risk and extent of insect or disease infestation, while increasing stand resilience to disturbances.

Need:

- Address current infestation of insects and diseases.
- Address fuels hazards caused by dead and dying trees.

Need to address insects and diseases



- Reduce stocking levels to decrease competition for moisture, light, and nutrients:
 - By removing insect and disease affected trees and thinning stands.
- Develop forest resilience:
 - Promote species diversity by planting more resistant tree species

Need to address fuels hazards



- Protect adjacent private property and other values at risk, increase public safety, and create fire-resilient landscape.
 - Remove dead or dying trees and thin stands.
 - Pile burning or mechanically treating existing fuels.
 - Prescribed burning to reduce fuel loading and allow fire to return to the area.

What do we hope to accomplish?



- Increase individual tree's ability to ward off attacks by insects and disease
- Develop stand resilience to disturbance
- Promote species diversity

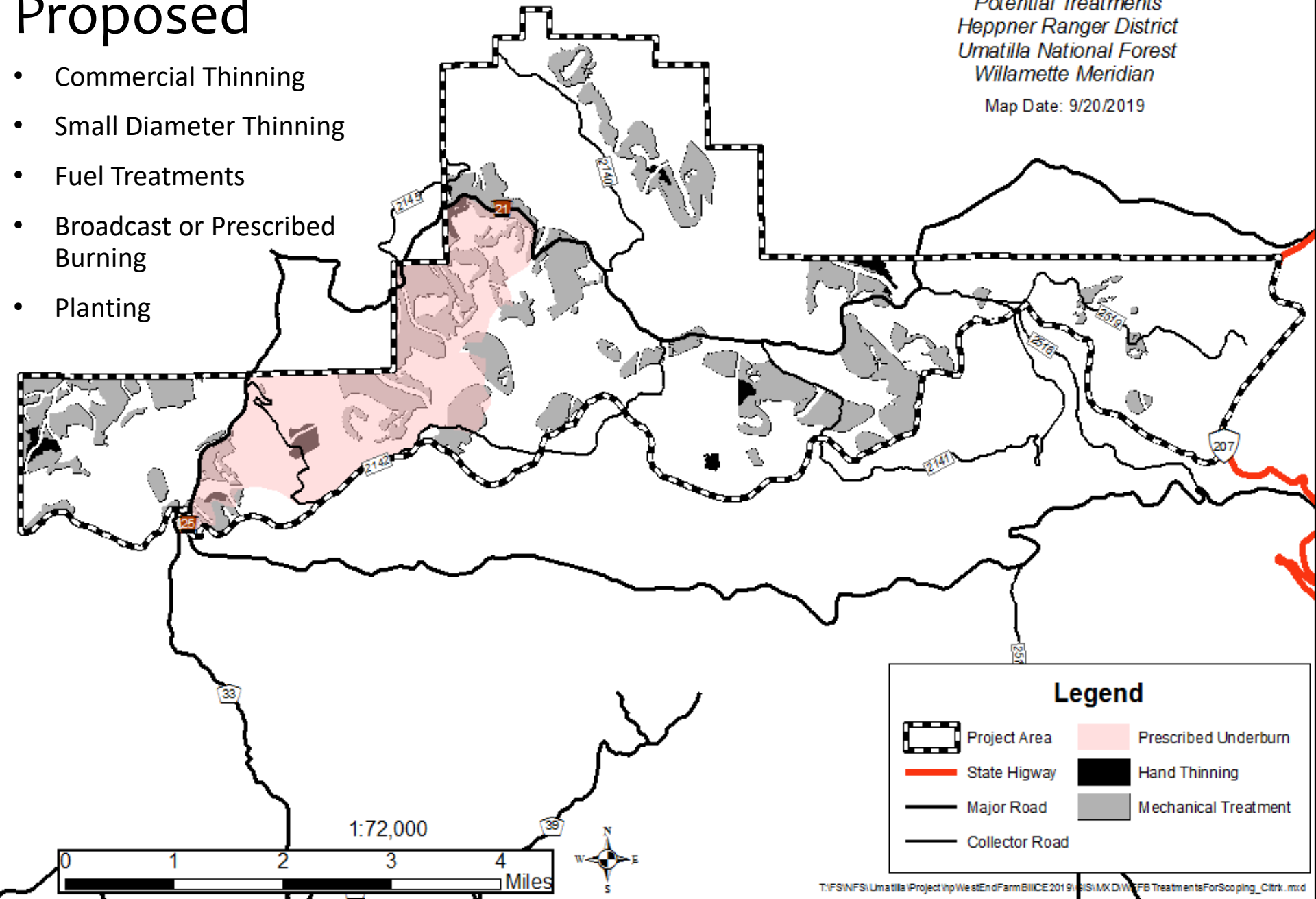
Potential Treatments Proposed

West End Farm Bill CE

Potential Treatments
Heppner Ranger District
Umatilla National Forest
Willamette Meridian

Map Date: 9/20/2019

- Commercial Thinning
- Small Diameter Thinning
- Fuel Treatments
- Broadcast or Prescribed Burning
- Planting



How can you help?

- The district is looking for information during the collaborative process to help inform the following decisions:
 - Project design criteria
 - Potential planting opportunities
 - Implementation options for industry
- Actively engage in public workshop and provide comments and feedback!

Providing Feedback and Comments

- Comments are most helpful when they identify what you support or have concerns, questions or suggestions about specific to...
 - An area within the project
 - Any changes to project design that should be considered
 - Any concerns about project proposal
 - Any clarification or additional information that we can provide
 - Any recommendations to help inform overall decision
- Scoping comments accepted until November 12, 2019
- Submit your comments electronically at:
<https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public//CommentInput?Project=56315>



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